

Amendments to the Specification:

Please insert on page 1, between lines 3 and 4, the following new paragraph:

-- This application is the national stage of International Application No. PCT/DE00/03340, filed September 26, 2000, designating the United States. --

The paragraph starting on page 3, line 30, is amended herein and now reads as follows:

-- In a special embodiment of the invention, a clocked control valve ~~is however~~ is, however, used as a metering valve. A clocked control valve of this kind is obtainable at less cost than a volume controller. The control of the volume flow takes place with the use of a clocked valve via the adjustment of the clock frequency or the ratio between the switch-on time and the switch-off time within a cycle of the control valve. --

The paragraph starting on page 5, line 24, is amended herein and now reads as follows:

-- Furthermore, a pressure controller is advantageously provided in a bypass line from the pump to a supply tank. With the aid of ~~[[a]]~~ such a pressure controller, the pumping pressure of the pump can be held constant independently of rpm. Depending upon the required volume flow, a correspondingly occurring component flow can then flow via the pressure controller back into the supply tank. --

The paragraph starting on page 7, line 28, is amended herein and now reads as follows:

-- A heat exchanger 14 is mounted upstream of reaction stage 12 and a heat exchanger 15 is mounted upstream of reaction stage 13 in order to cool the hydrogen flow D, which is finally ~~lead~~ led to the fuel cell. --

The paragraph starting on page 8, line 6, is amended herein and now reads as follows:

-- In the counterflow to the hydrogen-containing fluid flow D, water is supplied to the evaporator 7 from the branching ~~junction~~ connection 9 via the heat exchangers 14, 15 and via the reaction stages 12, 13. The water is vaporized in the evaporator 7 for transmission to the reformer 10. --

The paragraph starting on page 10, line 24, is amended herein and now reads as follows:

-- Counterpressure pulses from thin-layer evaporators, et ~~cetera cetera~~, are to be considered as disturbance quantities. Such counterpressure pulses are subjected to a certain periodic characteristic. For this reason, it is recommended to keep the clock frequency above this disturbance frequency. --

The paragraph starting on page 11, line 2, is amended herein and now reads as follows:

-- A further advantageous measure results when the pump 21 and/or the pressure controller 26 are configured to be controllable. The prepressure ahead of the metering

valves (22, 23) can be controlled via the control of the pressure controller 26 and can thereby be applied additionally as a control quantity. With the control of the pump rpm of the pump 21, the pump power can be adapted to the respective required fluid flow and thereby unnecessary flow recirculations via the bypass 25 can be avoided. This leads, on the one hand, to a saving of energy and reduces, on the other hand, the warming of the medium in the supply ~~tank 20~~, tank 20 which is absolutely necessary when recirculating via the bypass 25. --